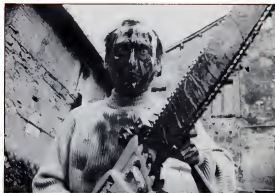


HORROR, ACTION, SLEAZE & EXPLOITATION!

VOL. 2
ISSUE 1
£1.00 ^{s.d}

PSYCHOTIC REACTION



INSIDE:

DEADBEAT AT DAWN... A BETTER TOMORROW.
..NIGHT ANGEL...HEAT... SEX DEMONS...50'S TRASH.
..STRIPPED TO KILL 2 ...SONNY BOY...GATOR BAIT...
JUVENILE DELINQUENTS...NUDE ON THE MOON...
FANZINES...FESTIVALS & ITALY:THE NEW BLOOD!



EDITORIAL

PSYCHOTIC REACTION
50 WINGFIELD RD
GREAT BARR
B'HAM
B42 2QD

Well, hot damn ! We made it !!

Yep, after a whole heap of setbacks (the two major ones being me moving, and then losing my job) and after countless sleepless nights wondering 'how in the hell I'm gonna get this little 'zine published' a miracle happened (well, not exactly a miracle - I got a well paid job, that enabled me to expand the 'zine) so, with a new found enthusiasm I decided to give it my best shot. And here it is the new improved PSYCHOTIC REACTION, what d'ya think ?

I'm gonna be straight with you from the beginning, I just can't do six issues a year ! Pathetic I know, but that's how it is I'm afraid you're gonna have to be content with an irregular publication. You'll notice a number of changes from last time 'round, different layout, typeset and a general feel that we know what we're doing !! The idea of a totally review based 'zine has been chucked out by me, 'cause basically I was fed up of doin' nothin' but watching films ! So from now on you can expect to see interviews, features and well just about anything could turn up in P.R.

One thing that will definitely be getting major coverage is the Oriental horror/action film scene, some of the films that I've watched lately have left me slack-jawed to be quite truthful, and you can expect to see reviews of "KILLER ANGEL", "TIGER ON THE BEAT" and such like starting next issue, but hey ! I hear you cry what's in this issue ?

Well, we have an exclusive review of "DEADBEAT AT DAMN", we have a feature on what's goin' on in ITALY, and an extract from the diary of a real life Juvenile Delinquent ! As well as my thoughts on Tan Saviina's N.D.T.L.D. remake, so theres plenty to read and enjoy (I hope) so I'll sign off and leave you to it.

SPENCE.

ALSO FOR NEXT ISSUE

I'd like to get a letters page going...but none of that "I hate the BBFC" bollocks ! I'd like to have an informative and entertaining letters page, so, get scribbling !!

ALL ARTWORK ;
OES.

SPECIAL THANKS ;
BEMBO !!

ALL MATERIAL :-
JAKA, JAKA ! @

HAVE YOU GOT AN NTSC MACHINE ? CAN'T FIND THAT SPECIAL FILM ?
THEN WHY NOT DROP THESE GUYS A LINE ? SEND \$4.00 AND PREPARE TO BE
BLOWN AWAY WITH THEIR FILM CATALOGUE FEATURING 1,000's OF MOVIES !!

VIDEO SEARCH OF MIAMI
PO BOX 16-1917, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33116-1917 (305) 387-6807
WRITE OR CALL FOR INFO



REVIEWS

" NIGHT ANGEL "

CAST-ISA ANDERSON, LINDEN ASHBY,
DEBRA FEUER, KAREN BLACK & HELEN
MARTIN.

DIRECTOR-DOMINIQUE OTHENIN-GIRARD.
1989, 85 MINS. NO UK RELEASE.

This is a real surprise, I mean a recent American film that's actually good ! This erotic horror movie is based around the legend of Lilith an ancient she demon from hell, y'see it seems that Lilith was Adams first wife before Eve but, not satisfied with just one man, Lilith wanted more and so was banished from the Garden Of Eden, she passes her time by seducing men and devouring their souls.

Craig (Ashby) works as 'Art Director' for a top fashion magazine called 'Siren' he's preparing the cover for the next issue but is having trouble finding the right cover girl. While home asleep he dreams that Joe (his best friend) is having sex with a beautiful, sensual dark haired woman (while Joe's wife sleeps peacefully next to them !) unfortunately for Joe his wife awakens to see the two of them getting hot 'n' sweaty, when she screams Lilith calmly slits her throat and carries on making love to Joe while blood sprays over the two of them ! The next day Joe is found dead ?

That night at a party Siren's editor Rita (Black) introduces Craig to her sister Kristie (Feuer) who designs jewellery for a living and hopes to have some of her work in the magazine, they hit it off straight away. The girl from Craigs dream (Lilith) turns up and the men falling over her, she teases Ken the magazines geek employee but, goes home with Siren's owner Mr. Crenshaw. Ken follows them and watches from a glass door. As Lilith undresses a blinding white light appears, Ken falls through the door taking a big chunk out of his leg and Crenshaw ends up at the bottom of a lift shaft with a spike through his chest ! When leaving work the next day Craig bumps into Lilith, she pretends that she knows nothing of Crenshaw's death, she also tells him that she's going to pose for Siren "Maybe I'll pose in black to show I'm in mourning...black panties !". Lilith goes to Rita's and seduces her, putting her under a spell.



Kristie gives Craig an amulet that hangs over his heart to protect him from evil (that's handy isn't it ! ?) and an old black woman called Sadie (Martin) keeps turning up warning him about the devil ! When Rita kicks her sister out, Kirstie arranges to meet Craig at a local bar, he gets there early and wonders into the back, only to find himself in hell ! Where he sees the most outrageous images... like... a huge fat woman who lifts up her breasts to reveal two grinning faces, a guy on a cross wrapped in barbed wire, deformed monsters making love to women, cannablians, dwarfs and more !!! Sadie saves him just before he's about to die and tells him all about Lilith; it seems that she murdered Sadie's son by ripping his heart out and Sadie vowed to get revenge.

Craig and Kristie go to Siren's offices to find everyone in a state of sexual arousal "Do you wanna fuck" one casual passer ask's ! All around people are fucking and in the middle of the room sits Rita, dead and rotting, Craig gets a baseball bat around his head and Kristie is kidnapped and taken to Lilith who is waiting in a nearby forest. Sadie and Craig go to the forest, where she gives him a dagger to plunge into Lilith's heart. They find Lilith and Kristie and after a struggle they manage to kill her, but don't despair 'cause there's a neat twist ending to boot !

A stylish, accomplished, sexy horror movie, newcomer Isa Anderson is great as Lilith, not only does she look drop dead gorgeous and ooze sexuality but she can act too ! Good performances abound from the largely unknown cast, there's a great atmosphere to it, and some real gory FX which include some great heart ripping !

Spence say's check it out !!!

RAVENS

" DEADBEAT AT DAWN "
CAST-JIM VAN BEEBER, PAUL HARPER,
MEGAN MURPHY & RIC WALKER.
DIRECTOR-JIM VAN BEEBER.
1987, 81 MINS. NO BRITISH RELEASE.

WOW ! I couldn't believe it when I found out that "DEADBEAT" had finally been released on video in the good ole U.S. of A ! Yes, a full three (yes THREE !) years on from first reading about it in some U.S. horror magazines I was gonna get a chance of not just watching it but, reviewing it too !

Van Beber plays Goose, the leader of a street gang called The Ravens. Their rival gang is called The Spiders, and is led by the psychotic Danny (Harper) he says things like "If you ever do that again, I'm gonna pull your eyeballs outta your head.. ..and eat 'em !!"- and that's just to his buddies !!

Goose's girlfriend Krissie (Murphy) is into woodoo and constantly begs him to quit the gang. He refuses, until one day during a violent fight at a cemetery he gets cut up real bad. When he tells his right hand man Keith (Walker) that he's quitting Keith calls him a " Pussy wimp ", he also tells him that he's gonna join the two gangs together " We'll be one big fuckin' scab on this city " the two gangs say.

Even though Danny is joint leader of the new gang, he wants Goose dead. When Danny's girl tells him she's pregnant, he looks at her wildly and beats her !! Danny gets one of his gang " Bonecrusher " to kill Goose. Bonecrusher takes drugs and says " I hate people and I just dont fuckin' care !". While Goose is out selling crack to make some money, Bonecrusher and his brain-dead buddy break into his apartment and in an extremely violent scene beat Krissie to a bloody pulp. When Goose arrives home he finds her lying dead on the floor, he breaks down crying and holding her bloodied body. He takes her body down to a trash-compactor and puts it in !



He wanders the streets for days, before breaking into his dad's apartment. His dad is a freaked-out-wasted-drug-addled-paranoid and when he discovers Goose has drunk his last beer he screams " It's a war out there " before he clubs a rat to death with his trusty baseball bat ! Goose gives him money for beer but, he buys Junk and mainlines it. The next time he asks for money Goose refuses to give him any, so, he grabs a meat cleaver and attacks Goose. After Goose has finished beating his dad up he throws some Junk on the floor, as he walks out he says " Go ahead kill yourself...It's been nice knowing you " (grim stuff or what ?).

Feeling sorry for himself Goose wanders into a bar and begins to get blitzed, after a few to many beers he bumps into an old girlfriend. She asks him to buy her a beer but, he's got no money left and so she leaves. While wandering the streets he beats on an old tramp and steals his bottle of J.D. he then snorts coke and thinks about killing himself. Before he can fire the gun, his old friend Keith stops him, calling him a " Sorry fuck " he tells him that he has to join the gang 'cause they've got a big job coming up. They plan to rip off an armoured truck that'll be carrying thousands of dollars. When Goose first sees Danny he tries to kill him, but, Keith calms him down. Danny plans not only to kill Goose but the rest of The Ravens as well, after the job has been pulled. Bonecrusher goes round telling his buddies that when he killed Krissie her intestines looked like little snakes all wriggly an' alivey !?!

...Continued on next page....

Continued from previous page.



They pull the job, killing the two guards, and escape with the money. The two gangs split up with The Ravens have a party to celebrate where one of them says " Just imagine your invisible and then you drop acid !?!", Goose tells Keith that The Spiders are gonna double cross 'em but, he doesn't believe him. Keith tells The Ravens not to take any weapons when they go on The Spiders turf, but Goose packs enough firepower under his jacket to fuel a small army.

Once on The Spiders land, The Ravens are attacked, all are killed except for Goose who gets out with the money ! He sleeps rough on the streets until The Spiders track him down and in an incredible scene he takes on the entire gang cracking skulls with his nunchaku, the way he kills Bonecrusher is awesome. Danny gets in his car to escape and as Goose tries to grab him he winds the window up and drives off with Goose hanging on for dear life ! He drives along a wall, ripping Goose's flesh off his arm. He then stops the car gets out and stabs Goose about 50 times, he then bites his fingers off and Goose replies by ripping Danny's throat clean off ! The final scene has Goose walking down the street only to fall over lying face down on the sidewalk. Dying on the streets where he once lived.

Even the humour works (although it doesn't lighten the film). I loved the scene where a guy orders breakfast for himself and God ! Saying to the waitress " Go and get his breakfast, you heathen bitch !".

The story is believable, the violence and gore shocking and the acting, dialogue, camera work etc are all top notch. You really should search this film out.

If enough people see it, I'm sure this could become a classic film. It's certainly on par with " COMBAT SHOCK " and " HENRY : PORTRAIT OF A SERIAL KILLER " for it's gritty portrayal of real life on the streets. This has shot straight into my top ten favorite films of all time. A true classic.

I wait with baited breath for Van Dikder's serial killer opus " ROADKILL : THE LAST DAYS OF JOHN MARTIN " and what looks like the ultimate Manson movie " CHARLIE'S FAMILY ". Stay tuned to these pages for details.

* STRIPPED TO KILL 2 : LIVE GIRLS *

CAST-MARIA FORD, EB LOTTIMER, KAREN MAYO CHANDLER, HIRKE TAN & DEBRA LAMB.
DIRECTOR-KATT SHEA ROBIN.
1988, 80 MINS. MGM HOME VIDEO.

S.T.Kill 1 was excellent ! As well as the high naked bimbo count there was a faced paced little thriller from the same director Ruben which proved that women can slum as well as any man !

Someone is killing strippers and the only lead the cops have is a young stripper called Shady who seems to know how the girls die and even has blood on her clothes. Sergeant Decker is convinced it's Shady but, falls in love with her (groan), but hey ! It could be anyone, how about like the geek DJ from the club or any number of the bitchy strippers. If you don't wanna know who the Killer is then don't read on, ...the killer turns out to be Shady's best friend Cassandra, y'see she fancied Shady and if she couldn't have her no-one could !

Totally boring story, but as the stripping takes up nearly 90% of the running time it's worth watching !!! Of interesting note is that the blonde stripper at the beginning takes her skirt off only to find it miraculously back on in the next shot ! Debra Lamb (Beverly Hills Vamp) does the best strip and most of the girls were (are) real strippers (so that's why they can't act !!). The film is saddled with dumb dialogue, lame acting and a terrible script but great stripping !!!

And yes, I know that's a sexist viewpoint but how else can you review something like that ?

* NIGHTMARE IN WAX *

CAST-CAMERON MITCHELL, ANNE HELM,
SCOTT BRADY, BARRY KROEGER &
VICTORIA CAROLL.
DIRECTOR-BUD TOWNSEND.
1969, 91 MINS. AVATAR VIDEO.

REVIEWS

Cameron Mitchell (everyones fave this low budget rip off as Vince, who used to be a top make up artist at a big movie studio until he had a little accident that badly scarred his face - (well, you couldn't really call it an accident, 'cause when he announced that he was going to marry the studio's top actress Marie (Helm) his boss Max (Kroeger) was so enraged that he through whisky in Vince's face and then set it alight ! It left such a scar down one side of his face that he couldn't bear for Marie to see him). He now works in a wax museum, and guess what ? Yep, actors from the studio Vince used to work for have started to dissapear and their lifelike (maybe to lifelike) figures have started to turn up in the museum. It seems that our Vince has discovered a secret serum (it's so secret even we never find out what's in it !) and it induces some sort of suspended animation in anyone he injects it into. Yes Vince is kidnapping the actors and then pretending he made them as wax dummies in the museum. Marie hears that Vince is working on a (supposedly) wax figure of her latest lover, and as he's dissapeared she wants the wax figure to remind her of him !



Vince goes to a bar for a drink where he bumps into Theresa (Caroll) a great lookin' but dumb-as-fuck would-be actress. As she is dating Max he invites her and Max to his studio late sunday night so he can do a cast of her. Once there he injects Max with his serum and then stabs Theresa - after she's dead he moans about her not screaming ! He then puts her corpse into a car and drives to the peer (on the way he kisses and cuddles her dead body !) and dumps her there, when he gets back to his studio all his creations come to life and kill him !..He then wakes up to find it was just a nightmare !!! Only to hear Marie say that they should announce their marriage at a party that night !!!

How's about that for a story then ? Cameron acts his socks off and there some unintentional humour from the people playing the wax figures 'cause they can't keep still ! Great musical interlude is provided by "The T-Bones" with some busty blonde chicks gigglin' an' shakin' all they got !!! Recommended.

* GATOR BAIT *

CAST-CLAUDIA JENNINGS, SAM GILMAN, CLYDE VENTURA & DOUG DIRESON.
DIRECTOR(S)-FERD & BEVERLY C. SEBASTIAN. 1973, 81 MINS. CIC VIDEO-CUT 3 MINS.

The late Claudia Jennings stars as Desiree, a young woman living deep in the swamp with her sister and dumb brother. When the sheriff's son and his retard friend decide to go get 'em a piece of her Cajun coon ass they get more than they bargined for when things go wrong and the retard gets shot by the sheriff's son, he's so shit scared that he says Desiree done it ! With the help of the retards family they decide to go in an get her. It seems that they're always after her as the retards brother tried it on with her but, she cut off his balls !

When they eventually stumble on her shack they discover that she's not there and so pass the time by raping and killin' her sister (this is where all the cuts take place-in it's entirety it's supposed to be extremely shocking) when Desiree comes back to discover her dead sister, it's kill or be killed as mayhem breaks loose with everyone killin' an' double crossin' each other. A great piece of sleazy exploitation, Jennings looks great as a gutsy heroine best line "Pull over in the name of the law, and drop your britches !". Oh yeah, the title comes from when Desiree was young and her dad used to tie her up, dump her in the water and wait for them gators to come, pullin' her out at the last minute and catchin' the gators. How's about for a childhood then ? Followed by Gator Bait 2 by the same director's, but unrelated storyline. Recommended to sleaze and exploitation fans.

ITALIA

PAST,,PRESENT BY
SIMONE
AND FUTURE. ROMANO.

After recovering from a liver disease, which forced him to pass directorial duties of "ZOMBI 3" over to Bruno (ZOMBI CREEPING FLESH) Mattei back in 1987, Italian goremeister Lucio Fulci has directed a whole heap of horror movies; most of which are still unreleased. In 1988 he was in charge of directing a whole series of Tv movies (as Lamberto Bava did the previous year) called "THE HOUSE OF TERROR"; Thus, he made "THE SWEET HOUSE OF HORRORS", "HOUSE OF CLOCKS", "WHEN ALICE BROKE THE MIRROR", "SODOMA'S GHOST" and god knows what else ! They were all deemed too violent and 'graphic' for Tv, and the producers even refused to even release them theatrically ! (the same happened to a series of films directed by Andrea Bianchi and Mario Bianchi) - Two films directed by Fulci - "SODOMA'S GHOST" and "DEATH KNEEL" - have been recently released on video in France.

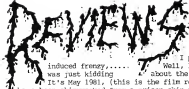
In 1989, Fulci directed "DEMOMIA", another gory horro movie about Nuns ! It was already scheduled for release (both video and theatrical) but Fulci stopped the whole thing because the producer hadn't paid anyone ! this is another movie likely to become a 'lost film')



In the summer of 1990 "UN GATTO NEL CERVELLO/NIGHTMARE CONCERT" came out - Fulci referred to it as his 'blood testament', his last (consider that the man is in his 70's !) and 'strongest' gore film. In this quasi-autobiographical film, Fulci stars as himself, a horror movie director obsessed by recurrent bloody hallucinations and nightmares. He asks for help from his psychiatrist neighbour (Robert Egan), but it turns out that the doctor is a psychopathic killer, who hypnotizes Lucio and makes him witness all the violent murders he carries out - Lucio is convicted of being the maniac, even though he doesn't clearly remember to have killed anyone. He confesses to a friend of his, who, doesn't believe him but tells the police to constantly follow him. The next time the doctor takes the mesmerized director out for a killing spree, the cops catch and shoot him.

Most of the gore scenes for "UN GATTO" were taken from unreleased films, like Leandro Lucchetti's "BLOODY PSYCO" (a shower scene of course !), Andrea Bianchi's "DO YOU REMEMBER DR. Jekyll" and Fulci's own movies (for example; the initial sequence where the naked female corpse is cut into pieces with a chainsaw is from "SWEET HOUSE OF HORRORS"; the maxi scenes are from "SODOMA'S GHOST"). On whole the film is pretty bad, but terribly fun and a great piece of exploitation ! Fulci has already finished another film ! "VOCI DAL PROFONDO/VOICES FROM THE DEEP", which should be released on video soon, it's a real dog - starring wretched actors like Dailio Del Prete and Karina Huff - about a despotic family man, killed in a mysterious way, whose ghost keeps appearing to his daughter demanding that she finds the culprit and that justice be done. It features some gore and the most ludicrous dialogue since Ed Wood, Jr.'s films !

Meanwhile, Michele Soavi's new horror "LA SETTA/THE SECT" has opened in major Italian cities. As usual, when Soavi direct's it's A-1 stuff. After realizing that at least half his cult following was gained thanks to his horror output, Aristide Massaccesi (a.k.a. Joe D'Amato) has decided to get back to one fave genre, directing a sequel to "EROTIC NIGHTS OF THE LIVING DEAD" called "RETURN OF THE LIVING DEAD". In recent years he has produced plenty of genre films, including Soavi's "DELL'IRIA/STAGE FRIGHT", George Eastman's "D.N.A. FORMULA LETALE/METEMORPHOSIS" AND MANY FILMS BY FORMER Bruno Mattei associate Claudio Fragasso/Clyde Anderson (LA CASA 5, "TROLL 2" and "NIGHT KILLER"). Umberto Lenzi ("CANNIBAL FERROX") has gotten back to scares and suspense with zombi flick "BLACK DEMON" (still unreleased) , while rumors have Italy's No.1 action director Antony M.Dawson/Antonio Margheriti already working on a script based on the Gulf war ! Don't miss Andrea Bianchi's just released "QUALCOSA IN PIU" a transvestite epic (the "LET ME DIE A WOMAN" of the 90's !?). Alfonso Brescia/Al Bradley ("BLOOD AND BULLETS" and "THE BEAST IN SPACE") has recently finished "SAPORE DI MORTE/TASTE OF DEATH", while Edoardo Gargheriti grinds out "LA CASA 6/ GHOSTHOUSE 4".



" INVASION OF THE FISH MEN "
 CAST-BARBARA BACH, JOSEPH COTTEN,
 RICHARD JOHNSON & CLAUDIO CASSINELLI.
 DIRECTOR-SERGIO MARTINO.
 1978, 85 MINS. VIPOO VIDEO.

induced frenzy..... I purchased this whilst on a narcotic
 was just kidding Well, I can't really tell you where, and I
 about the narcotics officer.

It's May 1981, (this is the film review now, o.k.), and a bunch of guys
 have been shipwrecked from a prison ship and are drifting in a boat in the
 Caribbean sea. Suddenly, their boat gains momentum and they're attacked by a horde of
 fish monsters (here portrayed by extra's in rubber suits). Only five survive the
 attack to be washed up on an unknown island. One of 'em gets sunched by a pesky fish
 monster, another falls into a trap and is spiked, another is unwittingly more fish
 bait and when they enter a voodoo cemetery one is convinced it's inhabited by zombies.

Enter Barbara Bach, (I wonder if she was drinking up to 17 bottles of wine a
 day with hubby Ringo at this time ?), she's the unwilling captive of Cassinelli who
 owns the island. I say unwilling 'cause (Cotten), has been doing some naughty bio -
 - logical experiments involving the transplantation of gills into men, turning them
 into the amphibious fish creatures of the title.

I hope you're gettin' all this ?

Now, mysteriously Bach has nocturnal visits with these creatures, and feeds
 'em some gloopy white liquid, and they never do diddly-squat to her !

Now, the remaining survivor, (I don't know what happened to the other guy, - he
 just ran off on horseback never to return), happens to be a doctor, so Cassinelli has
 him treat Bach's father who's covered in rancid sores. Now it's time for Cassinelli
 to unveil his plan. Taking the remaining survivor, he leads him to an underground
 cave, and together they hop into a water tank, and are lowered into the sea. Guess
 what they find there ? Yes, you've got it...the lost city of Atlantis !

This diabolical plan entails the retrieval of all of Atlantis's treasure.
 One snag. The city is guarded by the fish men, and there's only one way to communicate
 with them and that's via the gloopy white stuff Bach feeds 'em ! AND THERE'S MORE....

But I'll leave you to search out this flick for yourself. Needless to say I
 was expecting nothing more than a boring 85 minutes, but this flick is really good,
 albeit silly, fun. To see the fishmen is worth the price of admission alone !

Gary Gittings.

ANDY WARHOL'S " HEAT "

CAST-JOE DALLESSANDRO, SYLVIA MILES, ANDREA FELDMAN & PAT AST.
 DIRECTOR-PAUL MORRISSEY. 1972, 96 MINS. VIRGIN VIDEO.

A timely re-issue from Virgin, and at the reasonable price of £12.99, this duo
 (the other being " FLESH ") of Warhol flicks were snatched up by Mr.Poison in no time.

Now in true arty-Warhol fashion I'm gonna review this uniquely.

JoeDalleSandrochecksaltoahotelownedbyPatAst-whileloungingaboutthepoolsidehe
 meetsupwiththehighpitchedgirlwhowasalsoinTrash.Hermotheriscallingovertotheshoteltopy
 harrant.AfteranargumentwithPatAstsheinvitesDalleSandrobacktoherroomandjustwhines,
 whines,whines.

Are you with me so far ?

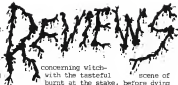
Motherarrivesandtheyallstartarguingandtalkingatonce.Motherrefusestogivehermoney
 andtheykeeptalkingallatonce.Motherstellsdaugethatshehould'tgoaroundtellingeveryone
 she'ssalesbian.Everyoneiswearingakimpyclotheshatshowoftheirrollsoffatit'suglydisgusting
 itcarriesonlikethisfor96minutesintrueminimalistWarholstle.

I loved it !

Gary Gittings.

" SEX DEMONS "

CAST- ANNE LIBERT, BRITT NICHOLS,
DORIS THOMAS, KAREN FIELD & JOHN FOSTER.
DIRECTOR-JESS FRANCO as CLIFFORD BROWN.
1972, 84 MINS.GO VIDE0. CUT; 32 MINS.



A delicious sex/horror movie hunting from the prolific Franco, begging an old woman accused of witchcraft being she puts a curse on her captors the Lord Justice, Lady De Winter and Renfield, telling them that her daughters will seek them out and kill them. The two girls are being brought up in a nearby convent, Kathleen is content with her life in the convent, but Margret feels unfulfilled and passes the time by gettin' off on herself and writhin' naked on her bed ! The Lord Justice and his companions arrive at the convent to see and test the two sisters. They discover that Margret isn't a virgin and take her away for torture.

concerning witch-
with the tasteful scene of
burnt at the stake, before dying
Justice, Lady De Winter and Renfield,
telling them that her daughters will seek them out and kill them. The two girls are being brought up in a nearby convent, Kathleen is content with her life in the convent, but Margret feels unfulfilled and passes the time by gettin' off on herself and writhin' naked on her bed ! The Lord Justice and his companions arrive at the convent to see and test the two sisters. They discover that Margret isn't a virgin and take her away for torture.

Renfield has a unique way of getting a confession out of a would-be-witch ; he rapes 'em ! Kathleen sees an apparition of her dead mother who tells her that she must avenge her death. She then seduces a fellow nun in a sticky lesbian scene. Afterwards the nun is so upset that she throws herself off the top of the building !

Margret escapes and runs to the arms of a painter who hides and protects her. Kathleen meets a old blind woman who tells her who killed her mother and gives her a special weapon to use against them (the kiss of death !!).

Renfield tracks Margret down, he kills her lover, rapes her and the next day asks to marry her !? And get this..she says yes ! They plan to flee the country but get caught by the Lord Justice who tortures them both and then makes love to Margret !

Kathleen pretends to be a Spanish princess and stays at the De Winters. While at a feast she seduces lady De Winter and turns her into a bag of bones, she then helps her sister and Renfield escape but, while hiding out in a barn she kisses Renfield, when Margret sees his dead body she freaks and turns her sister in for being a real witch ! Kathleen is put to death but as her last wish she asks to kiss Lord Justice, he obliges and is turned into a skeleton ! The end sees Margret with the blind woman.

The British print was heavily cut (explicit sex and violence are not here), but it still packs a punch with it's general air of sleaze and sickness. As ever Franco goes overboard with the use of the zoom lense, which gets a bit of a pain after a while, and you can't help feeling cheated considering how much was cut, but all in all a very enjoyable film and a worthy addition to anyone's Franco collection.

NEXT ISSUE...NEXT ISSUE...NEXT ISSUE.

ORIENTAL OVERVIEW - ON YOUR USER FRIENDLY GUIDE TO KUNG FU, MARTIAL ARTS, ACTION, HORROR, FANTASY AND ALL THINGS ASIAN ! Yes, myself, BEY LOSAN & SHALIN SALT take a look at as many films as we can including ; KILLER ANGELS, THE KILLER, KUNG FU ZOMBIE, ANGEL I,II & III, and a whole lot more ! I hope you like it 'cause from next issue about 70 % of the 'zine is going to be dedicated to covering these exciting movies !!

JIM VAN BEBBER - I interview the director, star, fx guy and stunt man of "DEADBEAT AT DAWN" .

REVIEWS - include HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD II, KILLING SPREE, MY LOVELY DURANT BROTHER AND HIS SQUASHED BRAIN, GUINEA PIG AND COMICS, MUSIC & 'ZINES !!!

COMING TO A MAIL BOX/SHOP NEAR YOU ! LATE 91.

DETAILS :- APPROX 80 PAGES ! COST :- A COOL £1.50/\$4 INC. POST & PACKING !!

SIX ISSUE SUBSCRIPTION COSTS £5/\$12 INC. POST & PACKING !!!

SEND A STAMP TO ED. ADDRESS TO BE INFORMED BY POSTCARD, WHEN THE NEXT ISSUE IS READY COMPLETE WITH FULL INDEX LISTING, PRICE ETC.

"NOT OF THIS EARTH"

CAST-TRACI LORDS, ARTHUR ROBERTS,
LENNY JULIANO, ACE MASK, ROGER LODGE
& REBECCA PEARLE.

DIRECTOR-JIM WYNORSKI.

1988. 77 MINS. MEM HOME VIDEO.

REVIEWS

An alien ship hurtles towards earth, tacky but engaging synth music begins to play, the ship lands in some woods, a rather weird looking middle aged man appears wearing a hat and a pair of sun glasses, he walks over to a nearby car. Inside the car there is a young couple makin' out, without warning the old guy smashes the window, grabs and breaks the neck of the college dude, as his girlfriend screams with terror our friend takes off his glasses to reveal two glowing eyes, then before she knows what's happening she's had the life sucked out of her ! He then opens up his briefcase, hooks her up to some tubes and drains the blood out of her body !

That's the pre-credit sequence that begins Wynorski's ultra low budget remake of Corman's 1956 film of the same name. The credits are played over clips from past Corman classics ("MONSTER", "FORBIDDEN WORLD" etc). We then see our friend call himself Mr. Johnson (Roberts plays the alien with all the ability of a rotting plank of wood !). He goes to a clinic where he tells Dr. Rochelle (Mask) that he is dying and needs an immediate blood transfusion, when Rochelle refuses he hypnotizes him and forces him to help, he makes Rochelle assign him a nurse to give him regular transfusions at home. The lucky nurse is one Nadine Storm (played by one Traci Lords - who needs no introduction I'm sure), when she arrives at Johnsons house she meets Jeremy (Juliano) a two-bit hood who now works for Johnson as his chauffeur and cook, he gets paid in pure gold every week ! Jeremy tries to hit on Nadine but, as she's going out with a cop called Harry (Lodge) she's having none of it.

At night Johnson sits in his study talking to people from his planet Davanna, it seems that their planet is being ravaged by atomic war and their blood is drying up, and Earth may just be their type ! When Nadine's not pumping fresh blood through Johnson she's either out with Harry or lounging 'round the pool in a lil' wet look bikini ! When a troublesome vacuum salesman comes to the house, Johnson takes him down to the basement and stuffs him into the incinerator !

When Johnson orders Jeremy to take him out, he picks up three hookers, only he don't fuck 'em, no sir, he just drains their blood and sends it to Davanna through his matter trans -

- porter. Things take a turn for the worst when a beautiful alien woman (Pearle) turns up and Johnson has to steal blood to keep her alive. Unfortunately while in the clinic and 'cause he's in a rush, he steals rabid dog blood and gives her that ! Of course she goes mad and the police find her in Nadine's clothes, Harry finds Nadine and while on the phone Johnson kills Jeremy and goes after her. He hypnotizes her and tells her to get into the transporter, but, before she is sent to Davanna the cops kill Johnson and she is let loose from his spell. Johnsons grave reads 'Her lies a man, not of this earth'.

Not a great film, but it's certainly no better than the original, except that it has Lords strutting her stuff and proving that she can act ! It also has the dumbest stripper/gran girl to ever grace the screen and is padded with whole scenes from "HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD" and "MONSTER". Joke references to Traci's past include "I DON'T screw around !!" and "I'm a big girl now !". Set ya brain in neutral, relax and enjoy as you get beaten with dumb jokes and even dumber dialouge, the worst is when you can clearly see the camera crews reflection in a window pane during one of the basement scenes !! Recommended.



REVIEWS

" THE SADIIST OF NOTRE DAME "
CAST-LINA ROMAY, NADINE PASCAL &
JESS FRANCO.
DIRECTOR-JESS FRANCO.
1979*, 95 MINS. NO BRITISH RELEASE.
(* originally titled "EXORCISMES ET
MESSES NOIRES" - 1974).

Yet another Franco movie graces our humble pages ! This was one of his first films with his actress wife Lina Romay (real name Rosa Maria Almiraill). The story concerns one Mathis Vogel (played by Franco himself) a pleasant chap who used to be a priest, until he was excommunicated because of his extreme behaviour, he then spent some time in a mental home and now wanders 'round the streets ridding the world of immoral women ! One whore that picks him up get's more than she bargained for when he stalks her screaming "You whore, you're going to pay for every soul you've damned !".

He takes a book he's writing (all about the murders he's committed) to an S&M magazine called 'Venus' to see if they're interested in publishing it. Pierre who owns the magazine say's he'll read it and let him know. On leaving Mathis overhears Pierre and his secretary Ann (Romay) talking about a party at a count's mansion where there will be a virgin sacrifice. He follows Ann to a sleazy bar where she meets a young woman, and then follows them to a hotel and spies on them getting intimate (if you know what I mean and I think you do). He then goes back to the bar and picks up a dancer. Once at his place he strips, strangles and murders her.

Later that week he goes to the count's mansion and spies on the party, he witnesses a naked young girl hanging upside down with her legs parted, she is whipped and then has a knife thrust where the sun don't shine:- the audience are so repulsed that they all begin to make love to each other.

Mathis confesses to a priest that he is the killer of Notre Dame, but, because he won't repent his sins the priest won't help him. Pierre reads some of Mathis' book and begins to think that he is the killer. Meanwhile Mathis kills the count's slutty dominatrix, and then the count and his wife, "Damn shame if you ask me !" says the coroner. Mathis then goes to Ann's, ties her up and when she refuses to confess her sins he kills her.

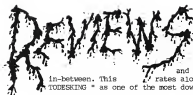
Pierre confronts Mathis about the murders but, Mathis just laughs and tells him that he's crazy, Pierre tells him that there's a party that night, and sure enough Mathis turns up. But just before they make their sacrifice Mathis kills one of the girls. There's a high speed car chase to the church where Mathis begs the priest to protect him. The priest tells him to give himself up. The film ends with Mathis calmly giving himself up to police. This is a great Franco film and one should see. Franco's really good (maybe to good) as Mathis and the feel of the film is real gritty. I think that people brought up on stalk 'n' slash movies will find it to difficult to sit through. Only ruined by piss poor dubbing and bad dialouge.

" BLOODY POM-POMS " aka " CHEERLEADER CAMP "
CAST-BETSY RUSSELL, LEIF GARREY, LORIE GRIFFIN & LUCINDA DIRKY.
DIRECTOR-JOHN QUINN. 85 MINS. NO BRITISH RELEASE.

This teenkill flick has little or no redeeming values whatsoever. Up at camp Hurrah (?) it's the annual cheerleader competition and all the bimbo's in the states have gathered to see who's the dumbest, prettiest and bestest dancer around.

Could it be the handyman ? What about the cook ? How about the sherrif who gets his kicks by watching the girls sunbathe ? Do you care ? I didn't lot's of red herrings but you'll know it's the dowdy mascot Corey- oh shit ! Did I give away the ending ? I'm really sorry ! The only fun bits are when the obligatory fat guy proves he's got guts by spillin' em all over the floor !, the sherrif getting his head blown off by a nervous teen and some bimbo getting a pair of garden shears shoved through the back of her neck with the blades comin' out of her mouth !

Terrible film, terrible film, terrible terrible terrible film !!!



" A SHORT FILM ABOUT KILLING "
CAST-MIROSLAW BAKA, KRZYSZTOF GLOBISZ.
DIRECTOR-KRZYSZTOF KIESLOWSKI.
1987, 90 MINS.

Jesus, this is grim. It starts grim and
finishes just the same, with no pause
in-between. This rates alongside " COMBAT SHOCK " and " DER
TODERKING " as one of the most downbeat and depressing movies of all time.

Made in 87 by Polish director Kieslowski, it tells the (basic) story of a man
who kills another man and in turn gets killed for it.

Jacek Lazar (Baka) is a lonely, depressed 19 year old. Living in the rather
downbeat town of Warsaw, he is experiencing an all-time low, depressed with everything
that surrounds him and for reasons best known to himself, he hires a taxi, travels
to a remote area of land, and kills the taxi driver.

The murder is motiveless...Whether it's premeditated is another thing ?

The ferocity with which he kills the taxi driver is overwhelming. First he
wraps a cord around his neck - choking him -, he follows this by tying the cord round
the head rest to stop the guy from moving, pausing to let a train pass then by, Jacek
then takes a lead pipe to his head, smashing him repeatedly over the head, you become
repulsed by the gross sight on your screen. When the taxi driver begins pleading for
his life, Jacek grabs a huge rock and begins to pulverise his head and you begin to
squirm uncomfortably in your seat.

Jacek then steals the car, and goes to see his girlfriend.

We immediately jump to the end of the prosecution case. One year after the
killing, Jacek is sentenced to death (a result that was inevitable). After seeing his
defence he is lead away to the noose. (what follows could easily pass as a Faces Of
Death-type smuff scene). His execution is chilling, convincing and leaves very
little to the imagination.

The credits role.

Intensely graphic and violent (though not in the 'gore' sense), A.S.F.A.K.
hits home very hard. It was filmed with Green tinted lenses to give it a downbeat
feel, this is reinforced by the negative setting of Warsaw. A.S.F.A.K. simply has to
be seen to be appreciated.

Chris Parkes.

" NUDE ON THE MOON "

CAST-MARIETTA, WILLIAM MAYER & LESTER BROWN.

DIRECTOR-DORIS WISHMAN.

1960, 70 MINS. NO BRITISH RELEASE.

This great nudie flick starts with an even greater theme tune " I lost my love
to a moon doll !". Jeff is a young rocket scientist, dedicated to his work. A rich
uncle leaves him three million dollars and he decides to build a rocket ship (not
worrying what the U.S. government will say !). We see him and a professor friend
putting liquid into test-tubes and BAMM ! Six months later a ship appears, they get
aboard -leaving behind the pretty secretary that likes Jeff -and take off (the FX are
brilliantly tacky-y'know all expenses spared !) they land on the moon while sleeping !
and discover a paradise full of nudists ! The moon people talk telepathically (I guess
it saved on lip-synching) and have antenna on their heads. Jeff and the professor take
photos (mainly of the moon girls) and the prof says " You go over there Jeff, I'll
make notes of the blonde girl !!" and Jeff falls for the moon queen. He gives her some
candy and she eats the wrapper ! When they leave Jeff forgets the camera ! Once home
Jeff falls in love with his secretary (who was also the moon queen) when he looks at
her he sees her naked ! A classic nudie-cutie, that could be re-released today no -
problem ! Recommended.

Diary of a Juvenile delinquent,,

I tell ya, it wasn't easy being a street hood in that neighbourhood. With the pigs breathing down your neck, social workers being just the same age as yourself, always tryin' to straighten you out when the real problem is staring them straight in the face, - themselves. The juvenile authorities couldn't do nothing either. Even if (and in many cases when) you were placed in 'care' at some low-down-shit-box of a detention centre, big wigs knew it'd never have the desired effect of calming you down, and making you "see the error of your ways young man", but only serves the craving for more kicks upon release.

I was leader of 'The Tornadoes', the tightest crew in the neighbourhood. The gang christened me Switchblade Chico, - on account of my constant companion, a switchblade knife and my overwhelming desire to bury the blade in the back of Chico, - leader of a bunch of pussy wimps callin' 'emselfs The Screaming Tribesmen.

Our turf covered 37th street up onto 39th street, at the corner of Melrose Avenue. Infringe on that space, and risk death. Likewise, outside those boundaries we were hunted prey, functioning on all eight cylinders on the observation front, - just to stay on the right side of the blade.

I remember that time real well, '56 - Elvis had just made it real big, television was no longer a thing of the future, you could sit in a drive-in all evening, and girls started kissing on the second date.

I was fifteen at the time, and thought I had the whole world in my hands. Anything I wanted was there just for the taking. Neighbourhood stores suddenly had opening hours that stretched into the very early morning (it was only the owners that didn't know they were open) and it was only the next morning, when they came to open up, they realised that all of their stock was highailing it over two Jimmy The Fence, - at a very tidy profit to the Tornadoes, and an even higher one to Jimmy. The best thing about ripping off a store, was making sure that you just happened to be passing when the store owner opened up. Gazing at his almost empty shop and swearing that he'd "castrate the bastards that did this" if I ever find 'em' it provided you with indescribable power.

We were a fairly small crew considering, with just eight members. Our crew included myself, Tiger Shell, - second in command, head of initiation ceremonies and so named 'cause of a shell he always carried, that had the exact markings of a tiger. Then there was Pony Boy - my oldest friend, and believe it or not, that was his real name, seems his father was some kind of a artist and felt that none of his kids should grow up feeling ordinary. Next up is Tonkey, she may be a girl, but rumble with her and she'll serve you up with diced chicken for lunch! Then we have Gravedigger, on account of his papa working in the cemetery, he's a bit of a loner, never says much, but never lets you down in a rumble. Jimmy Jazz was a mystery. No one knew his background, how he came to the neighbourhood, and only 'cause he was on earth gave you reason to think he had a Mama and Papa, he never talked of 'em and no-one had the spunk to ask. He was the most obsessed Jazz freak I ever saw, if he wasn't talking about it, he was listening to it, on the radio, on record, on the jukebox, anywhere there was Jazz, you'd find Jimmy. Obsessive, but say a wrong word and pay the price. He's only been with the gang a year or so, but Two Story has proved himself quicker than any other member of the Tornadoes in rumbles and break-ins, so named 'cause he literally is as big as a two storey building, and can eat his entire left hand side of the menu at Mannys delicatessen, this is one guy who you'd look at and think no way pal I'm outta here - needless to say Two story was a very useful person to have on the crew. Finally we come to Sop-Pill, this guy earned his name from the numerous break-ins he'd performed on pharmacies across the country, to score a fresh supply of his favorite diet pill, which supplies him with more nervous energy than I've ever seen in anyone, this guy would fight, pace, dance and hop anything when his little babies kicked into his system. Never been involved in a serious Tornado rumble, his time was yet to come. Sooner than most of us thought.....

Continued on next page.

Diary of a "Juvenile delinquent."

Continued from previous page.

That's the crew for ya, and now it's about time we got onto the subject of what we did for kicks. As everyone knows, school was strictly for squares, no hep-cat-daddy-o would be taught there. Teachers were just cardboard cutouts with no eye on what was happening underneath their mucus-dripping noses. Any thought that they had on discipline and education of teenagers was strictly beat into them at teacher training college, thus rendering any linear thought of their own completely.

Now, I'm not one to frown on education, or the educated. But I never in my fifteen years, had a single instance where I had to find that B was equal to A by dividing it by 4, nor has my life depended on drawing with exact clarity a bowl of fruit. My interest in Chemistry and Physics extends only to knowing when and where they're going to drop the bomb. Physical education only enabled me to climb walls better when I was in need of a quick getaway after a robbery, so, the very little time I spent in school was idled away, wishing for the final bell to ring.

If I wasn't in detention for some dumb-assed reason, then it was time to hit the dusty highway and return to the tenement rat-hole where we lived. My mother was a sweet person who worked all of her life only to end up in a paper mache five bedroomed hovel with a view onto the brick walls of the neighbourhood library. If anyone ever deserved happiness then it was her. I was never gonna let life treat me with such contempt. Mom's predicament was made worse by father, who had to quit work as an steel engineer, through a serious back injury, and was now virtually bed ridden. My sister, Marie, was a little over a year younger than me, and even though we had little in common, we got on like a house on fire, and to this day we've never had an argument, we just figure that we'll always be brother and sister, what ever happens we say as well get on and enjoy it.

After dinner it was time to round up with the rest of the gang, and head off to the movies, the drug store, or whatever was in favour at the time.

First order of business was to 'fess' up, detail the days events; any run-ins with rival gangs, any news on new people in the neighbourhood any any ideas on how to make money. With business out of our way it was time to grab some booze, chicks, reefer and party !

Things had been running very smooth lately. Too smoothly.....
No members of the Screaming Tribesmen had been spotted near Tornado turf. The Sharks seem to be in hiding, and even perennial teenage-bustin' lawman "Officer O'leary hasn't been around to such, which lead us to believe that things were gonna be mighty rough over the next few weeks. And sure enough the ugly Tribesmen reared their half baked asses and tried to rip-off a shop owned by Tiger-shells father, seems Chico was spotted by a neighbour tryin' to jimmy off the lock off the door, and was scarred away by approaching siren of a cop car, after the neighbour had called the police. We found out that Chico, 'cause he had the nerve to sprint down Tony's soda fountain and brag about how he'd been on our turf and had no trouble.

The time was ripe to teach a lesson on respect.

Every Saturday night, The Tribesmen have a party in their club room (which was little more than a disused, semi demolished basement on 34 th street.

Myself, Tiger Shell and Tomboy staked out the front, while two story, Gravedigger and Jimmy Jazz staked the back. Hop-Pill and Pony-Boy were up at the corner of 34th street ready to give the signal if any cops came along.

About 7:30 the party goers started arriving, bogged down with booze and food. By 8:00 the joint was swinging, now was the time to strike. But, I'll tell you about that next issue !

Switchblade Chico

* SONNY BOY *

CAST-DAVID CARRADINE, PAUL L-SMITH,
MICHAEL GRIFFIN, ALEXANDRA POWERS,
BRAD DOURIF & CONRAD JANIS.
DIRECTOR-ROBERT MARTIN CARROL.
1987, 99 MINS. RIV VIDEO.



If you've seen this, it needs no
probably still stuck in your mind ! If you
believe what I'm going to tell you !?!

introduction from me as it's
haven't then you may not

Weasel (Dourif) dances himself over to a red cadillac parked outside a motel - he climbs into the car only to have the owner grab him. Weasel in turn shoots the guy and his wife and then steals the car. He takes it to his boss Slue (Smith) while Slue means about the lack of good stuff his transvestite wife Pearl (Carradine !) finds a new born baby on the back seat. Slue wants to feed the kid to the hogs but, Pearl wont let him touch it.

Slue runs the whole town even the sheriff, when a new young deputy goes to Slue's place, Slue blows him to pieces with a cannon ! He then takes the kid who pearl named Sonny Boy (Griffin) and puts him in a giant chicken coop.

SONNY BOY AGED SIX- For his sixth birthday, Slue takes Sonny Boy out of his coop and cuts out his tounge ! Sonny Boy now narrates the picture.

SONNY BOY AGED TWELVE- Slue ties him to the back of the jeep and drags him across the desert ! Pearl runs around in stockings and suspenders !

SONNY BOY AGED FOURTEEN- Slue ties him to a post in a circle of fire !

SONNY BOY AGED SEVENTEEN- The now greying Pearl cuts his hair while Slue feeds him live chickens ! When the Mayor gives Slue's operation some trouble, Slue takes Sonny Boy round there at night and Sonny Boy rips him to pieces. While in the Mayors house he discovers three important things 1)mirrors,2) soap and 3) girlie magazines ! He begins to realize that there's more to life than the pitiful existence his father offers him. Slue drives to town with Sonny Boy locked in a cage on the back of the jeep. While Slue has a beer a beautiful young blonde called Rose (Powers) befriends Sonny Boy - he falls for her straight away.

Slue decides to take Sonny Boy to Beverly Hills so they can steal some decent stuff. Slue lets him loose in a church where he kills the priest and steals Jesus on the cross. Weasel and a fat man take Sonny Boy out (while Slue's away) and parade him round town, Sonny Boy bites Weasel's finger off and wears it round his neck ! When Slue gets home he goes mad and Sonny Boy escapes. While out he comes across a couple makin' out . When they spot him they chase him on their motorcycle and cut him up bad. Sonny Boy grabs the girl off the bike and holds her bloodied dead body in his arms, the sheriff shoots a tranquilizer into him. Slue comes to take Sonny Boy home but he runs off (again) while out it seems the whole town is after his blood, when resting in a barn a buch of people burst in and beat him.

He runs to the desert and comes across Rose letting balloons off on her moped, they begin to kiss but, Slue turns up and knocks her out with a baseball bat ! He tells Sonny Boy that he's gonna cut off his dick. Before Slue gets a chance the town lynch mob turns up. There's a bloody battle where Pearl gets shot to pieces and Slue and Sonny Boy get cornered in a barn and get petrol bombs thrown at them.

Rose stares at the burnt-out remains with Doc.Bender (Janis) and amazingly Sonny appears, they take him to the doc's place where he gives him a new tounge ! At the end Sonny says " I have words now, but what good are they, the pain doesn't stop....I wonder who I am now ?".

I found myself amazed, horrified, touched, sickened, saddened and above all enthralled during this total-one-of-a-kind-movie. I suggest you see it, you wont be dissappointed. Carradine also wrote and sung the theme tune.

" NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD 90 "
 CAST-PAT TALLMAN, TONY TODD,
 TOM TOWLES & BILL BUTLER.
 DIRECTOR-TOM SAVINI.
 1990, 89 MINS.

REVIEWS

Money ! Money ! Money !

Everyone involved in this (effort) has admitted that the only reason it got made was the fact that they got screwed back in 68 and didn't see any greenbacks !

They should've called it " NIGHT OF THE LACHING DEAD " 'cause that's all we did while it was on ! What, you don't believe ME ? Well let me lay the facts on you...

1) Tom Savini couldn't direct his piss into a pot ! Let alone a \$4 million dollar zombie movie !! His direction is flat, the pacing terrible and the whole feel is limp.

2)Turning Barbara into a Sigourney Weaver type doesn't work; Pat Tallman just doesn't cut it and she can't act worth diddly !

3) The excellent Tom Towles doesn't fit as Harry, I mean okay, yep he's a scumbag but he's not evil enough for Towles.

4) Ben (Tony Todd) is pushed to far into the back-ground by the new Barbara (he might as well be an extra)

5) There's no gore, none whatsoever ! I mean I'm not a real gorehound but COME ON everything is off screen !!!

6) it didn't scare me one little bit (okay- it did scare me a little bit - it scared me that I was actually watching the pile of shit !)

7) The ALISE of DUMMIES is UNREAL ! If you don't know what I'm going on about just check out

a) the graveyard scene (bouncy, bouncy) b) the car smash, and c) poker head.PATHEtic !

So there you have it. Why anyone would want to remake part of history is beyond me (especially some jumped up make up man). I can't wait for you all to see it 'cause it really is as bad as I've made out. Disgusting is a good word for this movie but, you could use SHIT !!!!

ZINE UPDATE...ZINE UPDATE.

JUST RECEIVED "TRASH CITY 9" 5 ALL I CAN SAY IS FUCKIN' AGE ! IT FEATURES JIMS FAVE SHOWER SCENES, THE REVOLTING COOKS, SEX IN COMICS AND A WHOLE LOT MORE HERE'S THE NEW ADDRESS TRASH CITY, 7 TUMMONS GARDENS, 5. NORWOOD HILL, LONDON, SE25 8SD.

'EXPLOITATION RETROSPECT 31' IS ALSO JUST OUT & BLOODY GOOD IT IS TOO ! REVIEWS INCLUDE THE CHURCH, CINEMA PARADISO & LOADS MORE.

JUST GOT A NEW ZINE "THE MOTHER OF SIGNS" WHICH FEATURES CARUNCULA, IT, FRANCO'S SINNER, FICTION & MORE !

TRASH CITY = TWO ISSUES OR MORE ARE 75 p / \$3 AN ISSUE. GREAT VALUE !

EXPLOITATION RETROSPECT = \$2 AN ISSUE. PO BOX 1495, HADDONFIELD, NJ 08033-0705, USA.

MOTHER OF SIGNS = £1.00/ \$ 3 , ALEX J LOW, TOP RIGHT, 1071 POLLOCKSHAMS RD, GLASGOW, G41 3YC.

SOME NEW COMICS TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR...

LEATHERFACE - YEP THE COMIC OF THE FILM, FOLLOWS THE STORY CLOSELY, COVER ART IS STUNNING AND THE STRIP ITSELF IS GREAT. PRICE £1.85. FULL COLOUR.

DRYING FREEMAN - THE RETURN OF EVERYONES FAVORITE ORIENTAL ASSASSIN ! EXCELLENT STORY, VIOLENT ACTION & GREAT ART MAKE THIS A MUST HAVE! PRICE £2.50. ALL COLOUR.

BLOOD FEAST - ANOTHER COMIC OF A FILM, THIS TIME THE CLASSIC BLOOD FEAST, PITY THE COMICS A LOAD OF BOLLOCKS ! THE COVER ART OF ISSUE 2 IS TERRIBLE, AND INSIDE IS A NIGHT -
 - MAKE OH WELL ! PRICE £2.00. Page Fifteen



Here's a look at the festivals that have taken place this year (so far) we hope our review's a little different to every-one else's your gonna read ?

BLACK SUNDAY 5

2nd MARCH, METRO CINEMA, MANCHESTER.

BLACK SUNDAY is for me as much as a social event as a film festival. It gives me a chance to chat (read ; have a beer !) with friends who you rarely get to see ('cause they live over the other side of the country) and to make a total ass of myself (this problem stems from the fact that mucho Bud is consumed during the long car ride there, and thus I'm usually pissed for the first hour ! (you most likely saw me shouting, jumping off chairs and like I said making a total ass of myself ! Anyway, the films (these aren't in any particular order)..GRIM PRAIRIE TALES :- didn't see it ! Tried to make it in for one particular scene (you know which one) but arrived seconds to late !..THE VANISHING :- missed this too !..THE TOXIC AVENGER III :- another Troma non starter (come on they've only made about two good films !) even slutty, sleazy Phoebe Legere opening her legs at every other moment (and I mean every !) couldn't save this chunk 'o shit...OPERA :- You've seen it (I'm sure) bollocks story, great murders, excellent camera work, shit dubbing and the usual Argento really, looked great on the big screen though...DESPERATE HOURS :- best film of the festival and definately Rourke's best for years...NIGHTWISH :- this had already been on video for six months so I didn't bother with it...SCHIZO :- I'd seen this on time-code 'bout a month before so I new what I'd be letting myself in for if I saw it...DEF BY TEMPTATION :- oh dear !? Nuff said...MORTAL PASSIONS :- this starred the guy from the GREMLINS movies, some guy who looked like Joe Dallesandro and some bitch in heat who can't help gettin' it on with everyone she meets ! I enjoyed it...PREDATOR 2 :- now this was a real surprise, it contained everything a decent movie needs ; gratuitous and unnecessary gore, extreme violence, full frontal nudity and NO Arnold Shaftneplease ! Great mindless entertainment.

Considering Dave got let down with some of the movies he was promised I think he done a good job (and please note dickheads : running up to Dave and saying "this festival's shit " is pathetic :- 'cause for a start you couldn't organise one even if the films were placed on your lap and 'cause you just make Dave wanna give up and not do another one, sheesh, Where do you guys get off, on your mothers panties ?). Any - - way keep 'em comin' Dave.

HARBOR FRIGHTS

6th APRIL, REX CINEMA, WAREHAM (Mickleham ?)

I was in a good mood, we'd been on the beach at 9'O clock that night, it was cool, we got to Wareham, drove down the high street and before we new it we were in another village !!! Got to the cinema (read converted house) found a queue of one - gorehound (read someone who lives for Tom Savini) who was most disappointed (the films on show were PREDATOR 2, OPERA, HEAVY METAL, FEAR, MIRACLE MILE, GRIM PRAIRIE TALES etc, etc) hung outside with Bal, Di and Lino, where Lino explained that Wareham don't have a car clamp, they just handcuff the village idiot to your car ! At 10.15 we decided to go in early, while Lino was trying to have a conversation with one of the organisers about getting in, we all walked into the Beatnik cafe next door and got in through the side door ! The cinema seated a whole 120 people but was quite cosy. We sat downstairs and waited for Martin to turn up with the crate of Bud and generally laughed at (not with) Wareham. The Beatnik cafe was cool (massen) and the highlight's of the festival were a) shouting abuse at Dave (BLACK SUNDAY) while he rambled through his intro for M.M. b) watching Dave pissed up at 4:o clock in the morning behind the cafe's counter desperately trying to do his Stavros impression while stealing a Mars & coffee, only to run off into the back when the woman came back ! and c) leaving Wareham. As first attempts go it was a....first attempt !?!

FUCK IT ! I was so pissed of with all the glossy publications features on heavy metal (I fuckin' HATE heavy metal !) that I decided to bring the music page back ! And concentrate 50's/60's trash/Rawk 'n' Roll (the true sleazehounds music preference) so here we go...

" BORN BAD - VOL ONE "
VARIOUS ARTISTS.
AVAILABLE FROM 'THE PLASTIC FACTORY'.



You can't get much better than this for an intro' to great music ! opening with "FASTER PUSSYCAT ! KILL! KILL!" by "THE BOSTWEEDS" (which you all know from the HUSS MEYER film of the same name) it then moves on to the ace "GOO GOO MUCK" by "RONNIE COOK AND THE GAYLADS" with it's deep sax and squealing girls on the chorus, the excellent instrumental "FAT BACK" by "LINK WRAY" is up next, this is a killer track with some great fuzzed guitar. "DNIGHT PULLEN" gives us "SUNGASSES AFTER DARK" and "GLEN GLENN" (great name) pounds through "EVERYBODY'S MOVIN" next up is a real suprise "ROY ORBLSON" with "DOMINO" anyone who's only heard his later puny love songs won't even believe it's the same guy, jungle drums bash your ears in the background as guitars and 'ORBLSON' give it all they've got - this track's a classic (like GARY told me "this guy was once WILD!") one of my fave bands are up next "THE SONICS" screamin' there way through "STRYCHNINE" (which as if you couldn't guess is about the joys of drinkin' said liquid ! Awesome is the only way to describe "THE SONICS" nastier than a thousand death metal groups ! Turn over to side two and you can get BLOWN AWAY by "PRIMITIVE" by "THE GROUPIES" there poundin' noise is enough to give your next door neighbours a headache for a week (what better recommendation for a record) 12 year old "RONNIE DAWSON" storms through "ROCKIN' BONES" and "THE THIRD BARDO" play the great "I'M 5 YEARS AHEAD OF MY TIME". "WARREN SMITH" gives us "URANIUM ROCK" which has a great guitar sound and a Geiger counter ! "SAVE IT", "MEL ROBBINS" advises us while panting out the chorus (you gotta hear it - one can only think he had a young girl in the recording booth with him !!!) "THE NOVAS" growl there tribute to wrestling hero "THE CRUSHER" with a vocal trained on broken glass and nails that'll have you on the floor in submission in no time ! And "WANDA JACKSON" finishes off the album with "FUNNEL OF LOVE" with WANDA scowlin' one minute and sweetly singing the next, and with lyrics like " HERE I GO FALLIN' DOWN, DOWN, DOWN, MY MIND IS BLANK AND MY HEAD IS SPINNIN' AROUND AN' AROUND...AS I GO DEEP INTO THE FUNNEL OF LOVE" this is for my money ONE of THE BEST records ever made !! Buy this album and do your self a favour, bangin' your head against a brick wall was never this good, you turkey necks !!!

" THE WILD, WILD WORLD OF MONDO MOVIES "
VARIOUS ARTISTS. BIG BEAT RECORDS, WIK 90.

This is an audio equivalent of a "MONDO MOVIES" video with not only loads of great songs but radio ad's and news clips too !! One of the best is "YOU IS A RAT PFINK" by "RON HAYDOCK & THE BOPPERS" with it's spaced out lyrics and crazy guitar it's sure to find a place in your heart (and probably clog it up giving you a heart attack !!) another classic has to be "TWIST FEVER" by "ARCH HALL JNR" yes he of "WILD GUITAR" & "THE SADIST" fame, as an actor he always looked (to me) like he'd had his jaw bust several hundred times with that face of his, but as a singer he's really good ! "THE LEMON GROVE KIDS" is a film I've always wanted to see and listening to the theme tune just makes me want to see it even more !! Over on side two "ROCKY ROBERTS & THE AIRDALES" are rockin' through "THE BIRD'S THE WORD" and probably the tracks that everybody knows are the songs from "SHE DEVILS ON WHEELS", H.G.LEWIS' turn on the biker genre. All in all a great album, containing some excellent never before heard classics. You can thank Bal & Marc from PSYCHOTRONIC for bringing you this lp. Look forward to the next one guys !?

WANTED

CHINESE HORROR/GHOST/ACTION MOVIES.
ESPECIALLY JON WOO/TSUI HARK :
LISTS TO:- SPENCE, 80 WINGFIELD RD,
GREAT BARR, B'HAM, B42 2QD.

JOHN WATERS, RUSS MEYER ORIGINALS,
ALSO GOOD QUALITY COPIES OF THE MR
VAMPIRE & SHOGUN ASSASSIN SERIES :
SALTY, 27 WESLEN HOUSE, OXFORD ST,
WALSALL, WEST MIDS.

RUSS MEYER STILLS (PHOTOCOPIES) &
CHINESE MOVIE STILLS (PHOTOCOPIES):
SPENCE, c/o EDITORIAL ADDRESS.

EARLY JOHN WATERS SHORTS, POLYESTER
SCRATCH 'N SNIFF CARDS, ANY WATERS
POSTERS. ALSO SUPER 8 COLOUR/SOUND
FILMS FROM ANY GENRE : CARL, 236
MILTON ST, PALFREY, WALSALL, WEST
MIDS, WS1 4LP.



CHINESE HORROR/ACTION, SLEAZE. EXPLOITATION,
MEYER, LEMIS, PULCI etc. S.A.E. TO :-
SPENCE, 80 WINGFIELD RD, GREAT BARR, B'HAM,
B42 2QD...WILL SWAP, SEND LISTS.

HUNDREDS OF RARE UNCUT MOVIES FOR SALE/SWAP
MOSTLY IMPORTS :- SALTY, 27 WESLEN HOUSE,
OXFORD ST, WALSALL, WEST MIDS. TEL 0922-647824.

NEW MOVIES FOR SALE/SWAP. WANTS ARE NEW
IMPORTS :- JEZZ, THE LAURELS, ROPE WAY,
HOOK NORTON, OXON, OX15 5QD.

ALL AD'S FOR NEXT ISSUE SHOULD BE NO LONGER
THAN 30 WORDS (+ NAME & ADDRESS) AND SHOULD
BE SENT TO ED. ADDRESS BY END OF AUGUST.

ITALIA : PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE. [LATE UPDATE :]

Bowie's LA SETTA/THE SECT has played a few theaters in Rome for a week or so
and then fuckin' DISSAPEARED ! It's not even been released in Milan yet ! Wat the...

In a few weeks we'll get the theatrical releases of Antonio Margherita/
Anthony M.Davson's INDO 2-LA RIVOLTA, starring former boxing champ Marvelous Marvin
Hagler and good ole Russ Meyer ohap Chas. Napier and the latest from Bigas (ANGUISH)
Luna which is a quasi-porn epic called LULU starring gorgeous Italian actress
Francesca (CAPTAIN AMERICA) Neri.

E.G.Castellari/Enzo Girelami is currently in Miami,Florida shooting a six
episode TV series called EXTRA LARGE : a cop show starring Bud (4 FLIES ON GREY
VELVET) Spencer, Phillip (MIAMI VICE) Michael Thomas, Erik "Ponch" Estrada and black
singer Glenna Warwick.

The Fulci films released on video in France are : "SOUPCON DE MORT"="TOUCH OF
DEATH" aka QUANDO ALICE PURPE LO SPECCHIO (WHEN ALICE BROKE THE MIRROR) and "LES
FANTOMES DE SOCOMA"="SOCOMA'S GHOST" aka I FANTASMI DI SOCOMA.

SIMONE ROMANO.

Well, what d'ya think ? Good huh ? As from now Simone's gonna be doin' regular stuff
for us so, you'll never need to worry what your fave Italian director is up too !

'ZINES

IN THE FLESH 6

NEKOMANTIK 2, JOE O'AMATO, DEEP RED,
LUCIO FULCI, JOHN McNAUGHTON, LSO
FILMS, A-Z OF NASTIES, TSUI HARK 6
MORE! 44 pages, 4 issues £7.50/\$30.
IN THE FLESH, BOX 1, SARAGELAND,
FOCUS, PRINCESS VICTORIA ST,
CLIFTON, BRISTOL, BS8 4BP.

FILM THREAT VIDED GUIDE 2

BARNABAS COLLINS, BEYOND THE DOORS,
KILLER, MASSES OF UNDERGROUND FILMS
REVIEWED 5 BAGS OF ATTITUDE !
76 pages, 55 per ish. inc. postage.
FILM THREAT, PO BOX 3170, LOS
ANGELES, CA 90078, USA.

EUROPEAN TRASH CINEMA VOL 2 ISH 2

ANTONIO MARGHERITI, WALERIAN
SODOWICZYK, RICCARDO FREDA, SERGIO
CORBUCCI 5 NEWS AND REVIEWS.
48 pages, 4 issues \$10.
EUROPEAN TRASH CINEMA, PO BOX 5367,
KINGMOOD, TX 77365, USA.

NAKED ! SCREAMING ! TERROR ! 4/5

ASIAN HORROR SPECIAL, MR VAMPIRE,
KUNG FU ZOMBIE, THE RAPE AFTER,
TOOTHLESS VAMPIRES AND MASSES OF
REVIEWS. 48 pages, 55 inc postage.
NAKED! SCREAMING! TERROR!, PO BOX
57, DIERLIN, OHIO 44074-0057, USA.

VIDEOZE 1

WITCH HUNTING IN THE MOVIES,
ROSALBA NERI, BURIED ALIVE, 99
WOMEN, THE DEVILS FEMALE AND
LOTSA PAUL NASCHY.
25 pages, 55 per ish.
VIDEOZE, PO BOX 9911, ALEXANDRIA,
VIRGINIA 22304, USA.

ORACULINA 11

JESS FRANCO, ED KENPER, SCREAMIN',
STUART LANCASTER, SCREAM QUEENS,
AND MORE. 44 pages, 55 per ish.
ORACULINA, PO BOX 115, MORD, IL,
62067, USA.

ALL THE FANZINES/MAGAZINES MENTIONED
IN THIS SECTION ARE WORTH GETTING (WHY
ELSE WOULD I FUCKIN' FLAG 'EM ?).

TELL 'EM P.R. SENT YOU.

SHOCK CINEMA

HAVEN'T SEEN A ISSUE FOR A WHILE BUT,
THERE SHOULD BE A NEW ISSUE VERY SOON.
IT'S A GREAT 'ZINE ANYWAY, SO GET IT !
54 per issue.

SHOCK CINEMA, 309 FIFTH AVE, BOX 445,
BROOKLYN, NY 11215, USA.

GORP GAZETTE

ONE OF THE LONGEST RUNNING 'ZINES
AROUND, AND A MUST HAVE. EACH ISSUE IS
PACKED WITH REVIEWS. \$1 per issue.
GORP GAZETTE, 458 HAZEL ST, CLIFTON,
N.J. 07011, USA.

NORA K 2

DEDICATED TO THE FILMS OF TRACI LOROS.
FULL OF REVIEWS AND NEWS, AS WELL AS
MASSES OF PICS. 44 pages, £1.50/\$4 per issue.
NORA K, 118 HIGH ST, EASTLEIGH, HANTS,
SO8 5LR.

FANTASYNDPESIS 3

HANHUNTER, ROBERT BLOCH, TWIN PEAKS,
DON'T LOOK NOW, 555 (AARGH!), HARDWARE,
LIVING DOLL, SCARECROWS AND MORE !
58 pages, £1.25 ?
FANTASYNDPESIS, 1 BASCRAFT WAY,
GOODMANCHESTER, HUNTINGDON, CAMBS, PE18 6EG.

TRASH CITY

THERE SHOULD BE A NEW ONE OUT SOON, ITS
ALSO GOT A NEW ADDRESS BUT I SEEM TO HAVE
LOST IT ! SORRY JIM, YOU CAN STILL GET TO
HIM THROUGH THE OLD ONE THOUGH !
£1/\$4 per issue.
TRASH CITY, 247 UNDERHILL RD, E.DULWICH,
LONDON, SE22 0PB.

HEADCHEESE AND CHAINSAWS

THERE SHOULD BE ANOTHER ONE OUT SOON !
IT'S WELL WORTH SENDING FOR !
70 p/52 per issue.

HEADCHEESE AND CHAINSAWS, 33 BRNWILL AVE,
CASTLETOWN, SUNDERLAND, SP5 3EB.

And a curse on everyone who I sent my
'zine to, and couldn't be bothered to reply.
you know who you are.

...NEWS.....NEWS.....NEWS...

THE AWESOME, ULTRAVIOLENT (AND UNCUT) VERSION OF "THE KILLER" IS OUT NOW ON PALACE VIDEO FOR £9.99 - FULL REVIEW NEXT ISSUE !

ALSO ON PALACE AT £9.99 ARE "SANTA SANGRE" AND "CARNIVAL OF SOULS", BOTH RECOMMENDED.

"MEET THE FEEBLES" IS TO HAVE THE TITLE OF "BAD TASTE 2" FOR ITS U.K. RELEASE.

"BLACK SUNDAY 5" LOOKS SET FOR AUGUST IN MANCHESTER, AND "SHOCK 5" AROUND THE SAME TIME. FILM NAMES BEING BANGED ABOUT IN - CLUDE "NEKRO 2", "THE SECT" AND "THE REVENGE OF BILLY THE KID". I TRUST I'LL SEE YOU AT BOTH.

ABOUT THE WRITERS

SPENCE : ANYTHING THAT HAS NO NAME AFTER IT, WELL HE'S THE CULPRIT ! A FONDNESS OF LOW BUDGET SLEAZE AND EXPLOITATION IS RAPIDLY BEING TAKEN OVER BY ORIENTAL MOVIES ! EVERYONE INCLUDING FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE BEING ALIENATED BY HIS REPEATED WATCHING OF "BARRY PRIMA" FLICKS. AND IF YOU DONT KNOW WHO HE IS YOU'RE SURE TO FIND OUT NEXT ISSUE.

GARY GITTINGS : A REGULAR BLAXPLOITATION FIEND, AND GENERAL DEVIANT ! GARY NOT ONLY WRITES FOR US BUT HAS ALSO COTTEN HIS OWN 'ZINE BACK OFF THE GROUND SEND £1.00 TO. PRETTY POISON, 307 BLOMCH RD, LEAMORE, WALSALL, WEST MIDS, WS2 7BS. AND PREPARED TO BE AMAZED AND SHOCKED AT HIS "FUCK YOU" ATTITUDE ! (GARY IS ALSO STRONGLY RUMOURSED TO BE IN CAHOOTS WITH SWITCHBLADE CHICO BUT THERE'S NO CONFIRMATION ON THAT AT PRESENT !)

SIMONE ROMANO : SIMONE WRITES HIS OWN ZINE (IN ITALIAN), HAS DONE PIECES FOR VIDEO WATCHDOGS, AND E.T.C. BUT, ALSO TRANSLATES MAX DELLA MORAS GOREZILLA INTO ENGLISH ! MAY YA GO BUY !

CHRIS PARKES : HIS MAJOR DRAWBACK IS THE FACT THAT HE LOOKS LIKE VANILLA ICE ! WHEN YOU'RE AT A FESTIVAL JUST SHOUT ICEMAN AND WATCH HIM RUN !!!!

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE/COMPANIES FOR ONE THING OR ANOTHER :

PALACE, RCA, VPD, CULT EPICS/VIDEOS, DAVE S MALCOLM, BAL, MARTIN, JEFF, KEITH BADMAN, STEVE C, KEN MILLER (FOR TURNING ME ONTO THE H.K. FILM TRAIL) BEY LOGAN, SALT, DOB, SAMHAIN, JASE S EVERYONE AT NOSTALGIA & COMICS, GRIFFIN, ALEX J LOW, FORBIDDEN PLANET AND ANYONE ELSE I MAY HAVE FORGOTTEN !!

GOOD 'N' GOOD

If you're answering any ads in SAMHAIN the dont write to FOX, RIPPON HOUSE, it seems he's been selling originals (well grabbing the money and not sending the goods out, thanks to one of our German readers for that info !)

ALL COMICS (AND MOST 'ZINES) MENTIONED IN THIS ISSUE CAN BE OBTAINED FROM NOSTALGIA & COMICS (MAIL ORDER) TEL : 021-643-0143 FOR DETAILS.

I'VE ALSO HAD SOME PEOPLE ASKING WHAT MY FAVORITE MOVIES ARE (THOUGH GOD KNOWS WHY !)

ANYWAY HERE GOES IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER :

THE TRIP.	ROBO FORCE.	TETSUO.
BUCKET OF BLOOD.	SUNBED.	DEADBEAT AT DAWN.
TEXAS I.	RAW FORCE.	FAST TIMES AT RIDGEMONT HIGH.
TEXAS II.	THE KILLING OF AMERICA.	BILL & TEDS EXCELLENT ADVENTURE.
TEXAS III (DIRECTORS CUT).	STREET TRASH.	PERMANENT RECORD.
A BETTER TOMORROW I & II.	DRY BABY.	RIVERS EDGE.
THE KILLER.	PSYCHOS IN LOVE.	EDWARD SCISHORHANDS.
HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD.	MUDHONEY.	THE GRUESOME TWOSOME.
THE BREAKFAST CLUB.	UP.	RE-ANIMATOR.
DAY OF THE DEAD.	HENRY.	MEET THE FEEBLES.
TIGER ON THE BEAT.	COMBAT SHOCK.	& MANY MANY MORE.

Well.I hope that sent you all asleep ! & yes, I know we dont start the Oriental coverage until next issue but i just couldn't resist at least one (back page) sorry !!

BACK PAGE EXTRA!!

" A BETTER TOMORROW "

CAST - CHOW YUN-FAT, TI LUNG, LESLIE CHEUNG & EMILY CHU.

DIRECTOR - JOHN WOO. PRODUCER- TSUI HARK.

1986, 92 MINS. RCA VIDEO.

This movie began the trend of 'HEROIC BLOODSHED' films in HONG KONG (other such films include "THE KILLER & BULLET IN THE HEAD") these movies feature some of the most over the top violence ever committed to celluloid !! A BETTER TOMORROW is the perfect introduction to HONG KONG Film-making, not only because it was the first of its genre but because it's so damn good !!

Chow Yun-Fat plays Mark. He's a shade weering, gun toting, super cool gangster, who runs a counterfeiting operation with his best buddy Ho, when Ho's younger brother (who knows nothing about Ho's 'business') Kit joins the police force, he promises their father that he'll quit & go straight.

On his last job Ho is set up and caught by police, his father is then killed by a hit man.

Mark sets out to avenge the wrongdoing and in a truly breathtaking scene (which has to be seen to be fully appreciated) he walks in on a card game and takes out about ten bad guys with two guns blazing (blood splatters the walls, the floors & the ceiling !!).

Three years later Ho is released from prison, he goes to make amends with Kit, but he still blames Ho and refuses to speak to him. Ho goes to work as a taxi driver for Ken (all of whose employees used to be bent !!) he comes across a near crippled Mark (his leg was shot up in the aforementioned gunfight) down on his luck he now works for the new crime boss Shing as his car cleaner ! Shing asks Ho & Mark to rejoin the syndicate, but Ho refuses point blank.

Kit is really desperate to bust Shing & prove to his boss that he really wants nothing to do with Ho & his past. In his determination to get Shing Kit is tricked and shot by him. Meanwhile Mark is beaten to a bloody pulp by Shing's men and dumped outside the taxi rank, which is then ransacked by Shing's men.

Bruised and beaten, Mark decides to take on Shing's men by himself. He goes to Shing's headquarters and steals some vital information on tape, on his way out he is confronted by Shing's men. A gunfight begins and Mark is saved by Ho who steals in on a motorbike ! They plan to blackmail Shing and leave HONG KONG. They give the information to Kit's girlfriend but tell her not to give it to Kit till later, of course she gives him it straight away and he rushes to the harbour.

Once there the three of them battle Shing's men in a gunfight of epic proportions, Ho gets shot and while Mark is tending Kit to let the past go and look after his brother he is shot through the back of the head (blood splattering Kit's face !!). It turns out that Shing set Ho up and killed their father so he could rule the underworld. The finale is stunning (and I won't spoil it here) and Kit and Ho find a kind of friendship.

Words simply can't describe this excellent movie ! JOHN WOO'S direction is superb, the story is great with a real sense of friendship between Ho and Mark, the action scenes are so over the top, they really are stunning (they make Sam Peckinpah movies look like Disney films !!!) and to top it all off the film has STYLE by the bucketload !

Tsui Hark (MOOD FORCE, ZU WARRIORS & A CHINESE GHOST STORY also producer of the first two A BETTER TOMORROW films & director of the third) has a cameo as a bumbling music judge, and CHOW YUN FAT is great as Mark the two gun wielding hero, this is the film that set him on the road to superstardom and you can certainly see why, the role suits him down to the ground and should be seen at all costs. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED !!

RCA released A BETTER TOMORROW in January 91 but it only had a very limited release, and not many shops stocked it and now it's becoming very, very collectable, so if you see one I'd definitely pick it up 'cause unless RCA release it on sell through (which seems unlikely) it's gonna be one tough nut to track down as time goes by !

Anyway until next issue, see ya !

